

Message Text

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12
ACTION IO-13

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INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMSXBASSY KINGSTON 1448
AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
USMISSION USUN NEWORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 1717

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, GY
SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: WRAP-UP ON WILLS COMMENTS ON NASC

REF: (A) GEORGETOWN 1709, (B) GEORGETOWN 1712

SUMMARY: DURING OUR AUGUST 25 CONVERSATION ON THE NASC, FONMIN WILLS SAID GUYANA OPPOSED THE MEMBERSHIP OF ROMANIA AND PORTUGAL IN THE NAM BECAUSE OF THEIR PARTICIPATION IN GREAT POWER ALLIANCES, ALTHOUGH HE AND BURNHAM HAVE DIFFERING OPINIONS ON THIS ISSUE (BURNHAM WAS INCLINED TO FAVOR ROMANIA'S ENTRY). WILLS THINKS CUBAN TROOPS WILL AGAIN BE EMPLOYED IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, PROBABLY IN NAMIBIA. DESPITE THE CURRENT OPINIONS OF KAUNDA AND SWAPO PRESIDENT NUJOMA TO THE CONTRARY. WILLS APPEARED PLEASED WITH THE GUYANESE DELEGATION'S PERFORMANCE AND ROLE AT THE NASC AND IN THE WORK LEADING UP TO THE CONFERENCE, BUT CLEARLY WAS NOT TOO HAPPY WITH WHAT HE CONSIDERED THE UNDUE EMPHASIS OF SOME DELEGATIONS ON THEIR NARROW NATIONAL OR REGIONAL PROBLEMS. THE ARBS AND THE NORTH KOREANS ARE CURRENTLY IN LOW STANDING IN WILLS' MIND. HE BELIEVES THAT

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FUTURE NAM MEETINGS WILL BE CONCERNED WITH THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN

PROBLEM AND, INCREASINGLY, WITH ECONOMIC ISSUES RELATED TO THE CREATION OF A NEW ECONOMIC ORDER. END SUMMARY.

1. THIS THIRD AND CONCLUDING MESSAGE ON FONMIN WILLS' COMMENTS TO ME AUGUST 25 REPORTS HIS VIEWS ON SEVERAL TOPICS INCLUDING NAM MEMBERSHIP, THE IMPACT OF THE EVENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA ON THE CONFERENCE, AND FUTURE DIRECTION OF THE NAM.

2. WILLS SAID THAT GUYANA HAD TAKEN A POSITION AT NASC AGAINST THE ACCEPTANCE OF RUMANIA INTO NAM. HE AND PRIME MINISTER BURNHAM HAD DIFFERENT VIEWS ABOUT CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE NAM. BURNHAM HAD FAVORED RUMANIA'S CANDIDACY FOR NAM MEMBERSHIP, WHEREAS WILLS SAID HE PERSONALLY ARGUED AGAINST THE ADMISSION OF RUMANIA OR PORTUGAL. WILLS' ARGUMENT WAS THAT BOTH COUNTRIES WERE MEMBERS OF MULTILATERAL ALLIANCES INVOLVING GREAT POWERS; THEREFORE, THEY SHOULD BE INELIGIBLE FOR NAM MEMBERSHIP.

3. BURNHAM, ON THE OTHER HAND, FAVORED A MORE FLEXIBLE INTERPRETATION OF NON-ALIGNMENT. THE PRIME MINISTER'S REASONING WAS THAT SOME COUNTRIES, SUCH AS RUMANIA, WERE STRIVING TO EXTRICATE THEMSELVES FROM THE CLUTCHES OF A GREAT POWER, AND NAM MEMBERSHIP WOULD PROVIDE A DEGREE OF SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT FOR SUCH COUNTRIES IN THEIR MOVEMENT OUT OF THE SOVIET ORBIT. BURNHAM BELIEVES, SAID WILLS, THAT THE SOVIET UNION'S GRIP ON THE COUNTRIES OF EASTERN EUROPE WILL INEVITABLY WEAKEN AND THE NAM CAN ASSIST THE PROCESS. NEVERTHELESS, ON THE QUESTION OF RUMANIA'S ENTRY INTO THE NAM, BURNHAM HAD FOLLOWED WILLS' RECOMMENDATION AND HAD OPPOSED IT. AS A RESULT, RUMANIA HAD CANCELLED ITS INVITATION FOR WILLS TO VISIT THERE.

4. EVENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA SEIZED THE ATTENTION OF DELEGATES DURING THE COLOMBO CONFERENCE. THE SOWETO RIOTS, NAMIBIA, AND THE RHODESIAN ATTACK ON THE REFUGEE CAMP IN MOZAMBIQUE WERE CONSTANT PRE-OCCUPATIONS OF THE DELEGATES AND AFFECTED THE CONFERENCE'S TREATMENT OF AFRICAN MATTERS (WILLS DID NOT SPECIFY IN WHAT WAY).

5. WILLS VOLUNTEERED AN OPINION THAT CUBAN TROOPS WOULD NOT BE USED IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, ALTHOUGH HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT KAUNDA OF ZAMBIA HAD TOLD HIM HE DID NOT BELIEVE CUBAN TROOPS WOULD AGAIN

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BE EMPLOYED IN EITHER RHODESIA OR NAMIBIA. SWAPO'S PRESIDENT NUJOMA ALSO HAD SAID HE WOULD NOT NEED CUBAN HELP. BUT WILLS SAID HE PERSONALLY WAS OF THE OPINION THAT SWAPO'S GUERRILLAS, EVEN IF THEY RECEIVED HELP FROM OTHER AFRICAN ARMIES, WERE NOT CAPABLE OF MAKING HEADWAY AGAINST SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY FORCES AND WOULD SOONER OR LATER SEEK CUBAN HELP.

6. CONCERNING GUYANA'S PERFORMANCE AT COLOMBO, WILLS CLAIMED IT HAD

BEEN LOW-KEY BUT EFFECTIVE. GUYANA HAD ADMIRABLY CARRIED OUT THE ASSIGNMENT, GIVEN IT IN 1972, TO MAKE STUDIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE AREAS OF TRADE, TRANSPORT AND INDUSTRY. IT HAD PRESENTED RECOMMENDATIONS ON THESE MATTERS TO THE NASC. ONE RESULT OF GUYANA'S EFFECTIVE PERFORMANCE WAS THAT GUYANA HAD RETAINED HER SEAT ON THE NON-ALIGNED COORDINATING COUNCIL.

7. LOOKING TO THE FUTURE, WILLS BELIEVED THAT THE NAM WILL BECOME INCREASINGLY INVOLVED IN ECONOMIC QUESTIONS AND IN WORKING TOWARD A NEW ECONOMIC ORDER. THIS AND THE DECOLONIZATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA WOULD BE GUYANA'S PRIME INTERESTS.

8. MRS. BANDARIKE TOLD WILLS DURING A PRIVATE CONVERSATION THAT SHE HAD DOUBTS THAT HER PARTY WOULD WIN THE NEXT ELECTION IN SRI LANKA. THIS CONFIRMED THE IMPRESSION WILLS HAD RECEIVED FROM OTHER SOURCES, AND THIS HAD IMPLICATIONS FOR THE NAM. HE SAID THAT A NEW SRI LANKA GOVT WOULD BE MORE CONSERVATIVE AND INCLINED TOWARD COMPROMISE THAN IS BANDARIKE'S QUASI-SOCIALIST GOVT.

9. COMMENT: WILLS CLEARLY WAS LESS THAN SATISFIED BY THE PERFORMANCE OF CERTAIN DELEGATIONS AND THEIR UNSEEMLY DEDICATION TO PARTICULAR NATIONAL AND REGIONAL INTERESTS. CERTAINLY HIS DISPLEASURE WITH THE ARABS AND NORTH KOREANS WAS EVIDENT (REF B). I HAVE HEARD FROM ANOTHER SOURCE THAT WILLS' INQUIRIES IN IRAQ ABOUT POSSIBLE ECONOMIC AID WERE GIVEN A COLD SHOULDER. THIS PROBABLY ADDED TO THE VEHEMENCE OF HIS COMMENTS ABOUT THE ARABS BLACKEN

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